

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Steven Nielsen on 6/30/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. A ball propelling assembly for propelling a ball having a seam, the assembly including:

a ball ~~[[positioned]]~~ positioner having opposed ball supports which engage and rotate the ball which thereby moves relative to the ball supports until positioned relative thereto in a predetermined alignment;

a ball spinner having opposed ball supports which engage and spin the ball in the predetermined alignment, and

a ball propeller which propels the spinning ball from the assembly along an axis of propulsion.

Claim 18 (canceled).

24. An assembly for aligning a baseball in a baseball propelling machine, the assembly comprising at least one pair of opposing ball supports, wherein rotation of the

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ball supports causes a loaded baseball to rotate about a predetermined axis, wherein the pressure exerted by the ball supports on the baseball is insufficient to prevent the axis of rotation of the baseball changing whilst being rotated and the baseball adopting the predetermined axis of rotation and wherein a single pair of opposed ball supports firstly causes the baseball to rotate about a predetermined axis and thereafter apply a predetermined amount of spin to the baseball so as to be propelled in the two seam position and wherein the opposing pair of supports contact the baseball with twelve to eighteen kilograms of pressure when spinning the baseball in the two or four seam position and wherein the ball supports each have a concave face **[[has]]** which have a plurality of adjacent scallops or grooves which meet at peaks on the rim of the **[[face]]** faces of the ball supports.

\* \* \* \* \*

The drawings on file are obviously informal, but adequate for examination. Now that the application has been allowed, formal drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 are required.

\* \* \* \* \*

This letter was prepared by Examiner John Ricci, who can be reached at:

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Use 703-783-0439 for papers to be delivered directly to the Examiner, like informal or proposed responses for discussion, or notes in preparation for an interview.

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**/JOHN RICCI/  
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